MANSFIELD'S BEAU BRUMMEL

THE OPENING OF HIS ENGAGE. MENT AN OVATION FOR HIM.

The Greatest American Actor Gives Masterly Theatrical Presentation of Clyde Fitch's Youthful Character Drama-Four Weeks of Repertoire.

If evidence were needed that ability and a dignified ambition in the drama still command the patronage of the public, it would be amply forthcoming in the ovation which greeted Richard Mansfield last night, upon the opening of his annual engagement here, at the New Amsterdam. The house was filled from floor to ceiling, and the audience followed the performance with unceasing interest. At the end of the third and Mr. Mansfield was called before the curtain a dozen times.

As the years pass it becomes only the more clearly obvious that Mansfield is a very great actor. Since the retirement of Joseph Jefferson he is unquestionably the greatest on our stage. In England, both Irving and Forbes Robertson have powers of the spirit and of intellectual imagination beyond his scope; but in range and variety of character impersonation, and especially in the sheer dynamics of genius, Mansfield

We are little accustomed in this still somewhat provincial America to claim that artistic virtue is our due; but it would not be at all surprising if in the lapse of time we should come to value Mansfield as on the very highest level of the histrionic art of his generation.

The play last night was Clyde Fitch's "Beau Brummel." long one of his most familiar and most popular performances. It is a very theatrical piece, of a very antiquated pattern. Both the stagecraft and the wit have, in the main, the falsity of juvenile precocity. But there are frequent flashes of a very high order of talent.

What keeps the play alive is the saliency and picturesque force of the central character. False and sentimental as it so largely is, it has a theatric appeal that Mr. Mansfield's performance last night was in his best vein, full of subdued vigor, personal and vocal charm. Histrionic it is to the highest degree, and thereforenot illegitimately—successful.

A. G. Andrews gave his usual finished and sympathetic portrayal of the valet, and sympathetic portrayar of the vaser, Mortimer. Morton Selten was an acceptable Wales, fat and fatuous. Miss Gertrude Gheen as Mariana, the rich clothier's daughter, and Miss Irene Prahar as the Irish maid, Kathleen, were pretty and

agreeable
To-night Mansfield will revive his striking
and long neglected Richard, and after
three weeks of his repertory end with a
production of Molière's "Misanthrope."

MARRIED ON THE STAGE. Actor Thurston of Boston and Miss Martin

of Roanoke, Va., Made One. Washington, March 20 .- George H. Thurston of Boston, who plays the part of the "Town Bully" in "Quincy Adams Sawyer," and Miss Julist Martin of Roanoke, Va., were married to-night on the stage of the were married to-hight on the stage of the Lafayette Theatre immediately after the opening performance of the play which last week finished a run in Brooklyn. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. G. P. Wilson of the Assembly Presbyterian Church of this city. The members of the company and a few friends witnessed the ceremony.

peremony.

The wedding was a decided surprise,
The but once before. The as the two had met but once before. The company played a one night stand in Roanoke late in January. Mutual friends brought Miss Martin and Mr. Thurston together. Before he left Roanoke they were engaged. Miss Martin's family was informed, but no one in Roanoke expected that the wedding was to take place account. that the wedding was to take place so soon.

Mrs. Thurston slipped quietly away from Roanoke yesterday, coming to Washington. Her family is quite prominent in Roanoke. A brother is one of the city officials.

"LEAH KLESCHNA" BURLESQUED. Leah Is Redeemed in an Astoria Cabbage

Patch in the Colonial's Version. A "respectful" burlesque on" Leah Klesch-

Kessler.* Ross and Fenton took the parts of Leah Kessler and Paul Chilblains, and Edward J. Connelly that of Kessler. After parodies on the text, burlesques of the action and a few new jokes, Chilblains took action and a few new jokes, Chilbians took
Leah home from an Astoria cabbage patch.
In the preceding vaudeville there was
a spectacular electric dance. Light first
appeared on the port feet of four of the
girls, others following in succession until
the entire port side from heel to head was
illuminated, while on the other four girls
there were similar flashes on the starboard
side. Port and starboard lights then
oruised around the stage in rhythmic fashion.
Some of the other special performers,
Riccobono's horses, the Marco twins and
the Teims troupe of trapeze performers
will probably be seen later at the Hippodrome. "Leah Kessler" will provide the
burlesque part of the bill this week and
next.

RUSH FOR PADEREWSKI SEATS. The Largest Audience He Has Had Here

Likely to Hear the Pianist. indications are that Ignace Paderewski will play in Carnegie Hall next Saturday afternoon to the largest house that ever heard him there. There were crowds at Carnegie Hall yesterday morning and at Ditson's, where the sale of tickets began at 9 o'clock, and there was disappointment in store for purchasers at both places. Practically everything had been sold on orders

tically everything had been sold on orders received before the doors were opened. For weeks the mail orders have been pouring in, with the result that only a few seats remained when the public sale began. The purchasers of high priced tickets found that there was nothing for them but seats on the podium. This is only the second time in the planist's experience that he has consented to allow the seats on the stage to be sold, as the proximity of the audience is likely to make him nervous. Paderewski will give only one concert. Paderewski will give only one concert.

BETTERS HAMMERSTEIN.

Joe Weber Makes an Illusion of the Only Oscar Himself.

Joe Weber added last evening to the entertainment at his Broadway music hall, where the Weber stock company is in its final week, a wonderful, mystifying and truly remarkable illusion, founded remotely upon one which has puzzled Oscar Hammerstein's patrons for some time. The only Oscar nimself was made to appear in a tank of water in full view of the audience, and accommodatingly wrote while submerged the gross receipts on a slate. District Attorney Jerome's name was used, and the new hit drew an additional laugh.

THE HOLLAND BENEFIT.

Its Messengers Now Expect the Receipts to Exceed \$25,000.

The managers of the Joseph Holland benefit performance, to be given next

benefit performance, to be given next Friday afternoon at the Metropolitan Opera House, announced last night that more than \$6,000 had been taken in at the box office last Friday alone. They expect the receipts to exceed \$25,000.

"Aunt Louisa" Eldridge and a committee from the Professional Woman's league will sell bonbons to the audience. Mrs. Eldridge will have charge of the booth, and the candies will be sold between acts by Elma Smith. Resalie De Vaux, Josephine Ashton, Elizabeth Freuch, Mrs. Ralph Delmore and Marion Ballou.

The Old Reliable BAKING POWDER

ABSOLUTELY PURE There is no substitute

PEOPLE'S CHORAL UNION.

Mendelssohn's "Elijah" Well Sung by Frank Damrosch's Pupils.

The People's Choral Union has come to be one of the institutions of the town. Frank Damrosch may or may not have builded better than he knew when he established the free singing classes, but one thing is quite certain, and that is that New York ought to be proud of the possession of such a good chorus, raised from what may be called the ranks of the populace.

The organization gave Mendelssohn's "Elijah" last night at Carnegie Hall in a manner that commanded the heartiest approval. It has already sung the "Messiah," which is more difficult, yet there are demands to be met in the more dramatic method of Mendelssohn, which might easily have shown the chorus to be wanting. That it acquitted itself with such glory is a thing to cause rejoicing in a

musical community.

It would be idle to deny that the chorus is not ideal in quality of tone. It is not a body of picked voices. It consists simply of the most advanced singers in Mr. Damrosch's classes in sight reading. Again, it is large and consequently voices must have been taken pretty much as they came to the director. But though the quality of tone, particularly among the sopranos, is not of the best, it is full, sonorous, well belonged and generally amonth.

is not of the best, it is full, sonorous, well balanced and generally smooth.

In phrasing, the chorus has been excellently trained and its enunciation is quite as good as can be asked of so large a body. In shading it accomplishes much. The singers have a really good piano at their command and their forte is sufficiently powerful, though here the quality of the sopranos becomes most unsatisfactory. In passages calling for sharp accentuation the chorus is especially good, and at all the chorus is especially good, and at all times it sings with spirit and interest. Some of its work last night was positively inspiring in earnestness and by reason of its fine precision.

The soloist were Lillian Blauvelt and Edith Chapman, soprance: Japat Spencer.

The soloist were Lillian Blauvelt and Edith Chapman, sopranos; Janet Spencer and Emma E. Elmer, contraltos; Glenn Hall, tenor, and Herbert Witherspoon, bass. Mme. Blauvelt sang smoothly and tunefully, but there was little of the inner feeling of Mendelssohn's music in her delivery. Mr. Witherspoon was an honest and business-like Elijah, and some things, generally in the recitative passages, he sang very well; but he was not so happy in the arias. His word was not at all like a fire in the solo which refers to that significant itter, and which refers to that significant atter, and in all places he found the high F a trouble some bar to leap.

Miss Spencer's singing was better than that which she did in Handel's masterpiece, for it showed more judgment in phrasing and more intelligence in conception. But she has yet much to learn about the breadth and depth and repose of music of this kind. Mr. Hall's singing was entirely amateurish and not always true to the pitch. The orchestra was weak and spiritless. Mr. Damrosch conducted with skill, but he did not get everything he desired by any means.

A NEW GERMAN COMEDY.

'The Family Rennion," With Three Stars. Amuses Irving Place Theatre Geers. With a Napoleonic concentration of stars in the cast Herr Conried presented at the Irving Place Theatre last night Gustav Kadelburg's three act farce comedy "The Family Reunion." Ferdinand Bonn is in it and Rudolf Christians, Harry Walden and Hedwig von Ostermann.

For a comedy the piece had more talk than action, but the lines evoked hearty laughter throughout. The story is eminently Teutonic. There are about a million Barons von Wollien. a poor but merry country gentleman, falls heir to the entail of the family wealth and possessions. Unfortunately a clause dating as far back as 1642 provides that unless the heir marries a noblewoman he must get the consent of the family to his union.

Egon (Christians), the heir in question, falls in love with a poor but honest artist. Hilde Ramberg (Hedwig von Ostermann), whom nothing would induce him to give up. Baron Ludolf (Bonn) is next of kin. A gay blade, but honest, is he. His Wife (Agnes Bunger) naturally wishes him instead of Egon to get the estate. Ludolf calls on Hilde by way of putting obstacles in the path of his kinsman's love for her. But he finds that Hilde is the foster child of Ruschke (Max Hänseler), his former orderly, whom he respects, and he ends by promoting the match.

In the last act Ludolf, like the good fellow he is, casts the deciding vote against himself in favor of his kinsman and decries the absurd Almanach de Gotha muddle as rubbish. Many types of German gentry are amusingly presented and the audience laughed from first to last, particularly at Bonn's Ludolf. It seemed doubtful, though, to some whether the piece would have a lobg run because so little really happens in it. Egon (Christians), the heir in question,

PUBLICATIONS.

PLAYS AND PLAYERS.

A Warfield Anniversary-New Players in "Strongheart"-Lions in a Thriller. David Warfield appeared in "The Music Master" for the 200th time last night. The audience at the Bijou Theatre recalled him after the second act till he made a speech.

Ellis Jeffreys and "The Prince Consort" moved to the Knickerbocker Theatre, where they will stay indefinitely. There was a large audience to welcome the play and its star.

and its star.

Marie Boland, Louise Drew, Lucille Stanford and Frank Gheen appeared for the first time with Robert Edeson's company in "Strongheart" at the Hudson Theatre last night.

William A. Brady will present a new comedy called "A Case of Frenzied Finance." by Kellett Chalmers, author of "Abigail," at the Savoy on April S. The scenes are laid in the Van Billion Hotel, New York.

A thriller, by name "Her First False Step," which will see the light at the Fourteenth Street Theatre next Monday, will have for its crowning scene the throw-

Fourteenth Street Theatre next Monday, will have for its crowning scene the throwing of a child into a cage of "real African lions." The child is rescued.

Henry W. Savage returned yesterday much improved in health after a rest in Florida and Hot Springs. He starts on a business trip to Boston to-day.

The successful run of Jefferson De Angelis in "Fantana" at the Lyric has caused the Shuberts to cance De Wolf Hopper's engagement there on April 24 in "Elysium," the new opera by Reginald De Koven. Mr. Hopper will stay on the road a while and then come to the Lyric.

"THE TRIFLER" QUITS. Only Ran Three Nights-Ibsen Next at the

Princess Theatre. The Princess Theatre was dark last night and will be for the rest of the week. Murray Carson opened there last Thursday night in "The Trifler." The poor returns at the box office rather disgusted Mr.

Carson.

The Princess will reopen on Monday night with Maurice Campbell's production of Ibsen's "When We Dead Awake." Matinées will be given on Tuesdays, Thursdays

SHOT DOWN FOR A BURGLAR. Former Raritan, N. J., Policeman Makes a Late Call and Is Wounded.

SOMERVILLE, N. J., March 20.-John Kissonack, a butcher, of Raritan, was arrested by the Somerset county authorities to-day and held under \$1,500 bail to await the result of the injuries of John Stevens, a former member of the Raritan police force. Kissonack shot Stevens in mis take for a burglar early Sunday morning. Stevens, while intoxicated, went to Kissonack's residence and tried to force open a door in the rear of the house. Kisonack raised a window and demanded to sonack raised a window and demanded to know what was wanted. Kissonack says Stevens made no reply, but pointed his revolver toward the open window and fired. Kissonack then reached for his own revolver and fired three shots. One shot struck Stevens in the chest, punctured his lung and lodged in his stormen.

lung and lodged in his stomach.

Stevens cursed Kissonack and then staggered to his home, several blocks away. He went to bed about 4 o'clock in the morning without revealing his condition to his family. It was not until later in the day that his family discovered that he was shot, and even then the wounded man re fused to tell how he received his wound fused to tell how he received his wound. Dr. L. M. Lawning, who attended Stevens, believes he has but a slight chance of re-

HORSE THIEVES SALUTE.

Talk About the Weather With Two West Chester Cops on the Way to Jersey. Thieves broke into William Mallett's stable at Fourth and Washington streets, West Chester, on Sunday night and rode west Chester, on Sunday hight and rode away on two of his best horses. They went south and passed the West Chester police station. Sergt. Smith and two policemen stood in front of the station as the men rode by.

"Fine night, isn't it?" said one of the

"Fine mgn, last the work of th orse thieves.

Pepper said the warmth wouldn't last

and the two horsemen kept on their way.

Sergt. Pepper was on duty yesterday
when Contractor Mallett reported his two horses missing. Pepper remembered the Sergt. Smith came in and added his mite to the tale. "We are easy marks," said Smith to

Pepper.
The horses were traced to the Wee hawken ferry

FIRE TANGLED HELLOS.

Next Door to Madison Square Telephone Exchange-Martha Washington Aroused. People who had trouble with the Madison Square "central" around 9:30 last night must place all the blame on a fire which started at 34 East Twenty-ninth street, next door to the telephone exchange on the

next door to the telephone exchange on the sixth floor of the building at 32.

The fire was in the building occupied by Ferdinand Fuchs Bros.'s, silversmiths. It did little damage and was soon put out, but the amoke and rattle of the engines gave the "hello" girls a scare. They did not desert their posts, but they had a poor ear for calls while the fire was being extinguished.

The Martha Washington, Adamless Eden the marina washington, dualities hotel, is nearly opposite the scene of the fire, and as a majority of the guests retire at 9 o'clock sharp, they were rudely awakened, and crowded the windows seeking an explanation.

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MARY MANNERING
in NANCY STAIR.

Miss ELLIS JEFFREYS
In "THE PRINCE CONSORT."

HUDSON THEATRE, 44th St., near B'way.

ROBERT EDESON in STRONGHEART

Mch. 27, VINGINIA HARNED in

"The Lady Shore." Seats ready Thurs. 9 A. M.

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IRVING PLACE THEATRE. Évery Evg. 8:20 é Sat. Matince. Bonn, Christians & Walder in Kadelberg's Comedy "Der Familientag."

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Wed. Eve., RING RICHARD III. Fri. Eve.,
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OF VENICE; Sat. Eve., IVAN THE TERRIBLE.

THIRD WEEK-Mon., April 3.

Mon. Eve., DR. JEKYLL & MR. HYDE; Tues
Eve. & Sat. Mat. BEAU BRUMMEL; Wed. Eve.
IVAN THE TERRIBLE; Thurs. Eve., THE
MERCHANT OF VENICE; Fri. Eve., A PA
RISIAN ROMANCE; Sat. Eve., KING TICH
ARD IU.

FOURTH WEEK-Monday, April 10. Six evenings and Saturday matinee, no "THE MISANTHROPE," by Mollere LIBERTY THEATRE, 42d St. nr. B'way Matines Saturday. Evgs. 8:15. Tae Gibson The Education of Mr. Pipp Play, By Augustus Thomas, with Digby Bell. NEW YORK THEATRE. 25c.50c.75c.51

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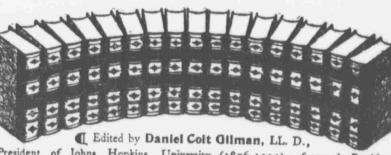
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Harper's Book News.

The Marriage of William Ashe

The universal appreciation of the press has been quickly called forth by Mrs. Humphry Ward's great new novel, "The Marriage of William Ashe."

"Its place is with the books that do not die," declares the New York Times. Here is the verdict of several other reviewers:

New York Sun

"This is the best of Mrs. Ward's stories—the most persistently and pervasively interesting. In recent fiction we have found nothing by which we have been more impressed and entertained. Especially and enthusi-astically grateful are we for Lady New York Globe

"In all Mrs. Ward's long gallery of distinguished heroines, Lady Kitty most vibrates with life, and her story is likely to leave with its readers most of that fragrance of rosemary which is for remembrance." Brooklyn Eagle

"Mrs. Ward has never wrought to a firmer or stronger purpose or with finer literary craftsmanship than in 'The Marriage of William Ashe.'" New York Mail

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